

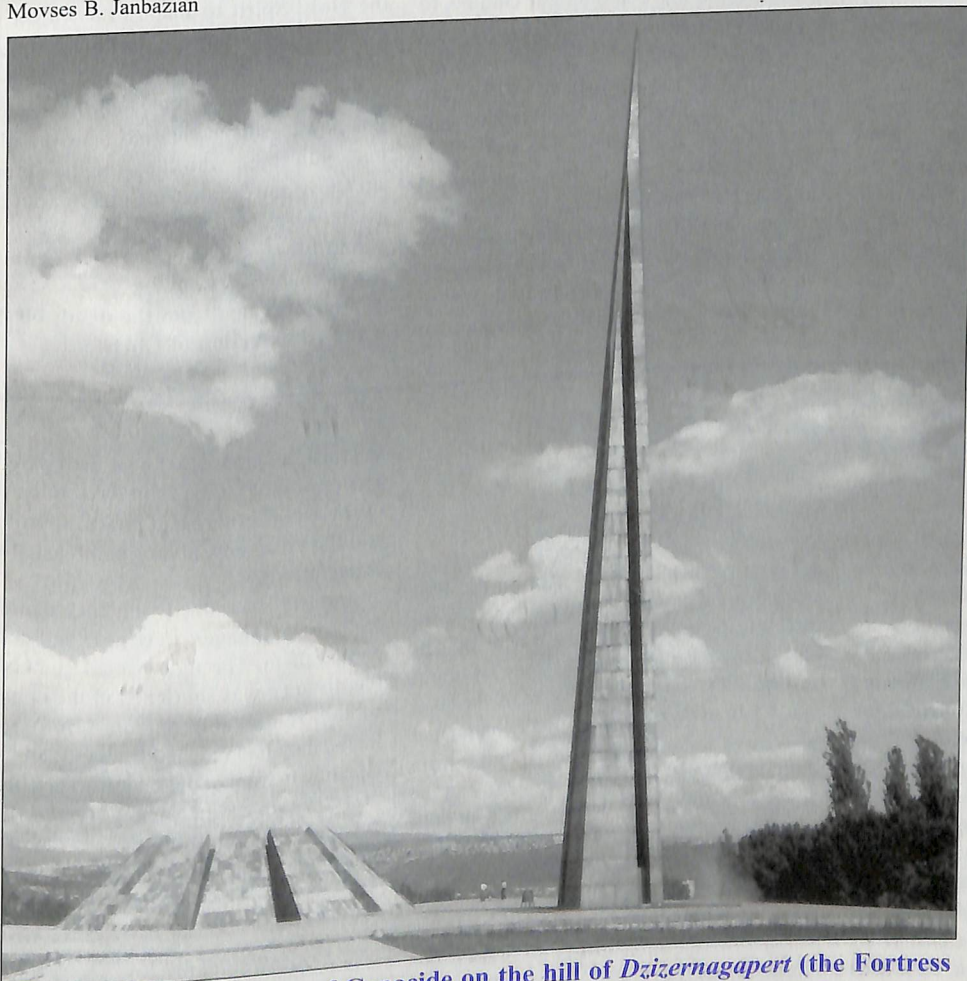
AMMAA NEWS



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Editor
Movses B. Janbazian



The Monument Complex of Genocide on the hill of *Dzizernagapert* (the Fortress of Swallows) near Yerevan. The nine massive blocks of stone of the smaller monument represent the nine Armenian provinces occupied by Turkey, bow towards an Eternal Flame at the center of the Monument. The two erected blocks of stone of the taller monument represent the Diaspora and the Motherland.

Go... and Tell...

by Movses B. Janbazian

Easter offers us a unique opportunity to reflect with profound gratitude on the special blessings that the risen Christ gives to us and to all those who believe in Him — forgiveness of sins, assurance of eternal life, undying hope, new and abundant life, His unfailing fellowship, joy, peace, love!

Indeed, Easter is a propitious occasion for recalling to mind all of these and many other blessings, and sincerely praise God for them.

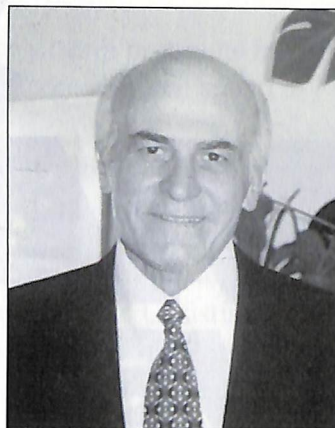
However, the Easter season is also an appropriate time to focus on the good news of Jesus Christ's resurrection, and our God-given mission to transmit that good news to others.

In St. Matthew's account of the resurrection event, we read that on the first Easter Sunday morning, the angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone that sealed Jesus Christ's tomb. Then the angel said to Mary Magdalen and the other Mary, who had come to the tomb, "Don't be frightened. I

know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified, but He is not here! And now **go quickly and tell** his disciples that he has risen from the dead" (Matthew 28:2-7). Matthew also mentions that as these two women ran from the tomb, badly frightened, but also filled with joy, Jesus himself appeared to them and told them, "**Go tell** my brothers to leave at once for Galilee, to meet me there." (Matthew 28:10).

"Go and tell!" And again, "Go and tell!" The repetition of these words in Matthew's relatively brief resurrection narrative, is quite significant. "Go and tell!"

The repetition of this divine command indicates that after receiving the good news of Jesus Christ's resurrection, and after being filled with the Easter joy and blessings, Christian believer's first duty is to spread the good news of Christ's resurrection so



that others also may enjoy Easter's joy and blessings. "Go and tell...!"

And there are so many people near and far who have not as yet heard the good news of Christ's resurrection! There are so many Armenians who so badly need the forgiveness, salvation, peace, hope and joy that only the risen Lord could provide.

At this Easter season, let's praise God in a special way

for the blessing that our risen Lord has given to us. But, let us also give an opportunity to the Holy Spirit to inspire us with a new awareness of our responsibility to introduce our risen and ever-living Lord to others.

Then, too, let us pray that the resurrection power will enable us to share our blessings with those who long for the compassion, love and the amazing grace of our risen savior, Jesus Christ.

Krisdos Haryav ee Merelots. Orhnyal é Haroutiounen Krisdosi.

Christ is risen from the dead; blessed is the resurrection of Christ. □

The Joy of Easter

by Puzant S. Levonian

Editor's Note: The following is adapted from the Rev. Puzant S. Levonian's last sermon, to have been delivered in the Armenian Evangelical Church of Yettem, CA, on Easter Sunday, April 4, 1963. Due to Rev. Levonian's death, the sermon was instead delivered by Rev. Senekerim Sulahian at a special memorial service on April 8. The full text of the sermon was made available to us by Rev. Levonian's daughter, Mrs. Rosine de Cervantes of Pasadena, Ca. Rev. Levonian rendered many years of fruitful pastoral ministry in Westfield, MA; Hoboken, NJ; Troy, NY; Philadelphia, PA; Los Angeles, CA; Detroit, MI; and Chicago, IL. He was a great man of the pulpit, the author of several books, a compassionate pastor, and an ardent supporter of the Armenian Missionary Association of America. He passed away on April 5, 1963.

Some twenty centuries ago, on the first day of the week, two wayfarers were traveling from Jerusalem to a near-by village named Emmaus, a distance of about seven miles. The name of one of the men was Cleopas; we don't know the name and identity of the other man, but judging from the fact that this story is related only in the Gospel of Luke, and the name is kept concealed, it is not improbable that the other fellow traveller was Luke himself.

There was no joy and song in the hearts of these wayfarers. Their hearts were enveloped with grief, for they were returning home from the burial service of a dear friend. And this was not any ordinary friend, but an unusual and matchless friend, from whom they had expected much. They had hoped that he would be the deliverer

of Israel, an emancipator of their people, a Savior of mankind. Then the tragic events of the Good Friday had cut off their hope, and the cross on Calvary had blasted their expectations.

And as they walked with such depressed feelings, a stranger drew near and accompanied them. The time passed quickly and the distance was shortened in the company of this remarkable person. Before they knew, they had reached Emmaus, and were standing in front of their home. They begged and constrained him saying "Abide with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent. Please, come in and stay with us." He accepted the invitation with willingness and pleasure.

They prepared a quick and simple meal, and invited him to the Table. The breaking of bread became a fellowship of communion. The experience of the Passover meal at the Upper Room on Holy Thursday was repeated and re-enacted. At that moment, the

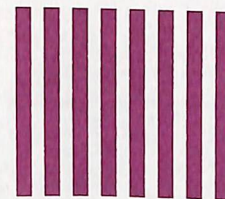
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ners, and office staff of the Armenian Missionary Association you our warm greetings. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is a great event in history. Because Jesus Christ died a sacrificial death for us, He saved us from sin and the power of death; He made us a Holy People, and He commissioned us to declare the love and the wonderful deeds of

the Armenian and Christian missionary organization, operates, and the ministries that aim at serving the needs of disadvantaged

with an exciting worldwide ministry that is made possible by the blessings with their needy brothers and sisters. Therefore, our primary goal is upholding the work of the AMAA through your gifts,

Armenians in many parts of the world, the AMAA is constantly working as an organization we are committed to responding to the needs of the public charity, we can do only as much as our public support requests for assistance from Armenia, Karabagh, Lebanon, and the critical needs of our people in these and other countries. Again, therefore, we turn to you for help. Your personal donations of our needy brothers and sisters.

news is for your convenience. Please be as generous as you can make a difference in the life of a needy person.

special blessings of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior,

Jesus Christ.

In His Love and Service,

Movses B. Janbazian

Movses B. Janbazian
Executive Director

Andy Torigian

Andy Torigian
President

Aram R. Minnetian

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Assistant Treasurer

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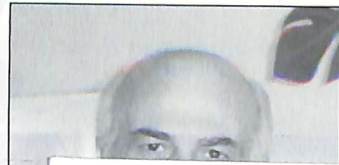
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Easter 2000

Dear AMAA Members and Friends:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, mission partners, and office staff of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), we would like to extend to you our warm greetings. The resurrection of Jesus Christ which we just commemorated is the most significant event in history. Because Jesus Christ died a sacrificial death and rose triumphantly from the grave, He saved us from sin and the power of death; He made us a Holy Nation bound together by his Spirit; and He commissioned us to declare the love and the wonderful deeds of God.

It is with this conviction that the AMAA, as an Armenian and Christian missionary organization, operates, funds or supports a variety of mission and service ministries that aim at serving the needs of disadvantaged people in 23 countries around the world.

We count it a great privilege to be involved in such an exciting worldwide ministry that is made possible by compassionate people who want to share their blessings with their needy brothers and sisters. Therefore, our sincere thanks to all of you who have been faithfully upholding the work of the AMAA through your gifts, prayers or labors.

Because of the ever-changing condition of Armenians in many parts of the world, the AMAA is constantly receiving new appeals for help. As a missionary organization we are committed to responding to the needs of suffering people. However, we realize that as a public charity, we can do only as much as our public support permits. As we write this letter, we have urgent requests for assistance from Armenia, Karabagh, Lebanon, Georgia, Bulgaria, and Russia. We want to meet the critical needs of our people in these and other countries. But we need the support of caring people. Once again, therefore, we turn to you for help. Your personal donation to the AMAA will make a difference in the lives of our needy brothers and sisters.

The envelope inserted in this issue of the AMAA news is for your convenience. Please be as generous as you are able, and be assured that your gift will make a difference in the life of a needy person.

Thank you and may your life be filled with the special blessings of the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In His Love and Service,

Movses B. Janbazian

Movses B. Janbazian
Executive Director

Andy Torigian

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The Joy of Easter (Continued from page 2)
disciples "eyes were opened, and they recognized Him; and He vanished out of their sight."

They had talked with their Master! They had seen Him eye to eye! They were absolutely positive and certain that their Lord had risen from the dead and He was alive for evermore.

And the knowledge and assurance that their Lord had risen from the dead, and that He was alive for evermore, changed everything! Gone was their sorrow and grief; gone were their wretchedness and misery; gone was their disappointment and discouragement; gone was their hopelessness and despair. They had been inspired, animated, encouraged, invigorated. They had been quickened by the power of resurrection.

* * *

The Easter joy and the enthrallment of the Emmaus disciples can be yours and mine also! The Risen Christ did not bring the Easter joy merely to the first disciples, but He brought it to His followers and believers in all ages and climes. He did not rise merely for the twelve disciples, but He rose for all those who would believe in Him. Christ is risen! He is alive! He is everywhere! He is anxious to meet anyone who longs to see Him.

But to see Christ, you must have a genuine desire, a deep and heartfelt yearning. Christ knows who yearns for Him, who seeks Him. It must be known to you, that Christ, after He was risen, never manifested Himself to anyone who disdained or insulted or rejected Him. He never revealed Himself to unbelievers, to His adversaries and torturers. If Christ had entertained any grudge or malice against His crucifiers and foes, He would first have shown himself to them, and He would have said to them with a mocking spirit, "See, you could not overcome me; you crucified me, but you could not keep me in a grave; you killed me, but I cheated you, and I got the upper hand." Christ might have done this, as any mortal being probably would. But He was too kind and magnanimous a person to do such a thing. His aim was not to get even with His enemies, but to help His adherents.

Christ is ready to help anyone, provided he is Christ's follower and friend. He would help and bless anyone who would seek Him,

love Him, adore Him, and serve Him. Loving Him is a requisite to receiving His grace and blessing. It is a significant fact that Christ, after rising, appeared only to His disciples and followers, only to those who loved and served and obeyed Him. Hence, the joy and power of Easter is not available to all. It is open to all, but available and reserved only to those who yield to Christ, and accept His sovereignty. Christ cannot give what He wants to give when men don't want it. The promise is for everyone, but the actual offer and gift is reserved only for those who are attached and devoted to Christ. He seeks those who seek Him, He meets those who follow and obey Him, and He blesses those who love Him. Give your heart and love to Christ, and you will be His, and then all that He has will be yours.

The appearances of Christ have not ceased after the first Easter week, or after forty days. They have continued through all the Christian centuries; saintly Christians have seen and known Him, in different ages and lands. Seers and saints have been privileged to share this bliss. A great cloud of witnesses, men like Paul, Augustine, Francis of Assisi, Thomas à Kempis, St. Gregory, Shnorhali, Naregatz, Martin Luther, Wesley, Moody, and a good many other godly men have testified that they have seen the living Christ. Many Christian believers and disciples, now

living, reiterate the same testimony.

You and I may have the same privilege and joy, which is the most precious of all privileges, and the greatest of all joys. What a boon it is to see and know Christ! What a privilege it is to enjoy the continuous companionship and friendship of Christ! What a joy it is to walk and to talk and to live with the ever-living and ever-present Christ, and to bask in His matchless glory and love. All this could be yours if you sincerely desire, and deeply crave. The risen Lord, the Son of God, the King of Kings, and the Lord of Lords desires to be your companion and friend, your leader and master, your director and guide, your protector and sustainer, your redeemer and Savior. At this very moment, He is standing in front of the door of your heart, and knocking at the door. And He is saying with His gentle and pleading voice: "If any many hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." Will you open the door? Will you invite Him in? Will you make Him your permanent guest and companion? You will be happy if you do. And this Easter day will be the happiest and most blissful day of your life. Would you be willing to take the step that will lead you into the felicity of this overflowing joy? God grant that there may be no one here who will miss this bliss. □

READERS' TURN

Mary, Martha and Missions

Your recent editorial message in the Jan./Feb. 2000 issue of AMAA newsletter touched my heart and I was led by the Holy Spirit to compliment you and say thanks for clarifying this importance of waiting on the Lord, like Mary did, to set time aside for Him, since everything else crumbles if He is not first and foremost. I did what Martha did for 42 years, then the Lord caught my attention through failures. I still struggle not to be Martha kind of a saved believer, whom we will meet in Heaven, who are after performance based relationship, rather than acceptance based. If we think about it, it is so silly to think we can add something to Christ's finished work on the cross. May God bless you.

Salpi Edgarian
La Crescenta, CA

Armenia-Diaspora Conference

The purpose of this letter is to congratulate you and thank you and the Lord for the wonderful speech that you have given at the Armenia-Diaspora Conference in Yerevan (AMAA News - Sept./Oct. 2000). The Holy Spirit was certainly leading you as you gave that speech, just like Peter on the day of Pentecost. After we read that speech we admired your vision and your choice of words.

We congratulate you for the Lord's use of you at that Conference. No doubt His Kingdom work on earth will harvest the fruit of all your efforts. May the Lord bless you and continue to use you for many more years to come. We thank the Lord for you and for the AMAA.

Dr. & Mrs. Puzant Krikorian
Fresno, CA

Dedication of a Genocide Memorial

Editor's Note: On October 25, 1998, a memorial service was held at the Sheen Chapel of the Ararat Old Age Home in Mission Hills, CA, to dedicate an exhibit of human remains – the desiccated bones of some of the victims of the Turkish genocide against the Armenians – collected from the death march to the desert of Der Zor. Appropriately enough, the principal speaker on this occasion was Nancy Eskijian, an attorney and a pastor, who is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Eskijian of Altadena, CA, and the granddaughter of Rev. and Mrs. Hovhannes Eskijian. Rev. Eskijian, who was a witness to the genocide, did what he could to help the destitute and the dying who passed through Aleppo on their way to death. He himself did not survive the genocide. Ms. Eskijian commemorated the occasion with the following words:

If grandfather were standing here today, I don't think he would want a message just about himself. I pondered what would Rev. Eskijian say in 1998, over 80 later. I think he would have had a message for us all, a message for both the dead and the living.

- I think he would say to the dead, the anonymous ones, the persecuted, the tortured, the hopeless—although you were not permitted an honorable death, you will have an honorable resurrection.
- As Jesus said to Martha at the tomb of her brother Lazarus, "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believes in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." AND IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE PROMISE OF THE RESURRECTION IN YOUR HEART, YOU NEED TO BELIEVE IN THE SAVIOR TODAY. You can say "Yes Lord" in your heart right now.
- St. Paul writes, to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord, and multitudes now who were hunted, starved, mutilated, murdered, discarded are comforted in the presence and holiness and love of God.
- The words of I Corinthians 15:42–44 sums up the power of the resurrection: "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown

in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power, it is sown in a natural body, it is raised in a spiritual body."

Every small seed that dies in the earth declares the message of the resurrection, as it raises up and produces a glorious flower filled with the fragrance of heaven. So too, those who were forced to bear the stench of hell will have the fragrance of heaven.

That is why Paul can write: O death, where is thy sting; O grave, where is thy victory.

I want to tell you for him, a message for the violent and the violated, God will have the last word.

But I believe he would have been comforted to see that the nation and people did survive, and that Armenians all over the world have thrived and planted their unique culture around the globe.

I also think he would have a message to the living, something that was born of sacrifice and dying to self, going from place to place to save lives, relieving the orphans, giving comfort to the dying, binding up the broken-hearted—A MESSAGE OF PRIORITIES.

I think he would say, do not focus on this earth.

Jesus said, "Whoever will come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow me.

"Whosoever will save his life will lose it and whosoever will lose his life for My sake and the sake of the gospel will save it.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth where moth and rust corrupt and thieves break through and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven."

Many of us think, "I'll live and then die", but God says you will die and then live.

While the positions and callings in the church are valuable, I think there is one calling that applies to all of us—servant, friend. Jesus said, "Greater love has no man than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do whatsoever I command



Nancy Eskijian

you." This was spoken the night God Himself got on His knees and washed the feet of His disciples.

There is a message to us all. The prophet Ezekiel stood over a valley of dry bones, and the Lord spoke to him, asking him, "son of man, can these dry bones live?" And Ezekiel, bewildered at the valley of dry bones and the impossibility of the situation, answered, "though knowest, O Lord."

And Ezekiel was instructed to prophesy over the dry bones—to hear the voice of the Lord, and then suddenly the bones were put together and gained flesh and sinews and breath and became a mighty army.

I think if Rev. Eskijian was in front of these dry bones, he would know that they would live again, and all the bones in the desert of Der Zor and along the roads and ditches of Turkey, and scattered in holes and rocks where only God knows, will love again by the power of the cross and the resurrection. Death and hell do not have the final word and never will.

But to the living he would say, we have a calling as a nation, and as a people individually, the same as God is calling out to all nations—to peoples—to worship Him and come back to our first love with greater passion and power than ever before. Except, we can look forward to an extra measure of blessing, and claim the promise of the word of God, that the glory of the latter house will be greater than the glory of the former.

Let us place our future and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, that His sacrifice might not have been in vain. □

AMAA Lecture Series

To celebrate the epochal year 2000, the AMAA introduced a program to help reinforce the faith and challenge the intellect of its members and friends. After some thought and discussion, the AMAA's Board of Directors decided that a special series of lectures presented by recognized scholars and thinkers drawn from the Armenian community would best serve this purpose. "As we prepare for the 1700th anniversary next year of the official adoption of Christianity in Armenia – thereby establishing Armenia as the first Christian nation – this program will serve to enhance awareness and appreciation of our common Christian heritage," explained Rev. Movses B. Janbazian, Executive Director of the AMAA.

The first speaker in the series was Dr. Vigen Guroian, whose theme was

"Genocide: A View from the Cross." Professor Guroian has lectured and written extensively on this subject. His thoughts on this theme have been described as "pioneering," "profound," and "insightful."

Dr. Guroian is Professor of Theology and Ethics at Loyola College in Maryland, and on the faculty of the Ecumenical Institute of Theology at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. Guroian has taught previously at the University of Virginia and at St. Nerses Armenian Seminary, where he also has served as Director of Academic Affairs. He received his doctorate in theology from Drew University (NJ) in 1978. He is the author of several books and many articles dealing with theology and ethics.

The second speaker in the series was Dr. Carnegie S. Calian, who talked about

SURVIVAL OR REVIVAL – Ten Keys to Church Vitality."

Dr. Calian is the President and a professor of theology of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He came to Pittsburgh in 1981 from the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary, where he had been on the faculty since 1963. He received his doctorate in theology from the University of Basil, Switzerland. Dr. Calian has led numerous seminars, conferences and workshops for business, educational, and professional groups, and has spoken widely throughout the United States and abroad.

The third speaker in this series will be Dr. Gevork Kherlopian, formerly a professor at the State University of Yerevan, Armenia. Dr. Kherlopian's subject, **"Early Christianity in Armenia"**, will cover a period in Armenia's history that is seldom addressed. The lecture will take place at AMAA Headquarters on Saturday, April 29, 2000 at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is invited to attend. All of the lectures in this series are free.□

AMAA Helps Flood Victim in Mozambique

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) contributed 7,500 dollars to help in the relief efforts in flood-ravaged Mozambique, according to a statement by Rev. Movses B. Janbazian, Executive Director of AMAA.

Latest reports indicate that since the beginning of February, torrential rains have devastated large parts of Mozambique. Hundreds of people have died in the floods, and an estimated 1 million people have been displaced by the worst floods on record in this Southeastern African country of 19 million. The true magnitude of the disaster is difficult to assess as more water is flowing into Mozambique through the Limpopo River which is flooded upstream in neighboring South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The specter of death from starvation, cholera and malaria is day by day growing among the survivors. Shelters, blankets, medication, foodstuffs, drinking water and other relief supplies are needed in great quantities and urgently.

The AMAA's relief aid, which, according to Rev. Janbazian, expresses the Association's Christian concern and solidarity, was channeled through Dorcas Aid International (DAI) of The Netherlands. DAI has a long history of mission work in Mozambique, and is working with local churches and Christian organizations to provide emergency relief to the victims of the flood. DAI is a mission partner of the AMAA, and is involved in significant relief and service projects in Armenia.

The AMAA is the missionary arm of the Armenian Evangelical churches worldwide, and its relief efforts are primarily directed to Armenia and Armenian communities in need of assistance in the Diaspora. Nevertheless, the AMAA also concerns itself with the needs of victims of natural and man-made disasters around the world. Over the



years, the AMAA has provided relief aid to victims of earthquakes in Southern California, India, Colombia, and other countries; survivors of hurricanes and floods in Central America, Florida, Minnesota and other places; and refugees displaced by civil wars in Rwanda, Somalia, Zaire, Ethiopia, Yugoslavia and other nations.

"Armenians have repeatedly experienced man-made and natural catastrophes, and that's why we understand the plight of suffering people, and should be willing to help the helpless and the destitute," stated Rev. Janbazian.□

AMAA's Medical Clinic in Armenia

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) received a quarterly report from Dr. Nazeli Sarkissian, Director of the AMAA Clinic in Yerevan, Armenia, detailing the clinic's activities.

The clinic operates from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. on Mondays through Fridays. The personnel of the clinic include a physician, dentist, psychologist, pharmacist and receptionist. The addition of a dentist last September increased the clinic's workload significantly.

The clinic's dental service is directed towards checking and treating the teeth of the children in the AMAA's Child Sponsorship Program. During the last quarter of 1999, the clinic's dentist, Dr. Sovren Tchshma-

ritian, treated 315 children; a single visit was enough for most of them, but several required three or more visits.

The clinic's psychologist, Dr. Ara Chalikian, treated 17 sponsored children in the course of 44 sessions. He also held counseling sessions with family members – mother, grandmother, etc. – of many of the children.

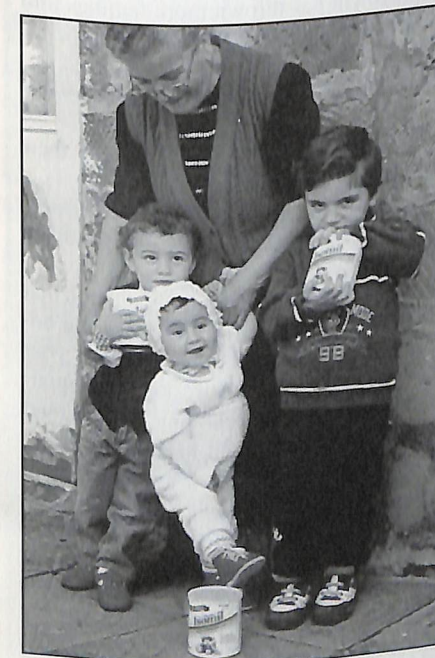
The clinic's pharmacist prepared prescriptions for 760 visitors. The most needed medicines were those required to treat pain, fever, hypertension, infections, heart disease and neurological problems. In addition, there is a great demand for multivitamins, not only for children but for the elderly as well.

The clinic's physician, Dr. Nazeli

Sarkissian, provides medical services to sponsored children and their family members and to the poor and elderly who live in the area. Due to the clinic's limited medical equipment and range of medications, about one visitor in five receives medical advice only. The others, nearly 800 during the quarter, are tested, diagnosed and treated. Many visitors are elderly people who cannot afford to buy medicine from doctors or pharmacists elsewhere. Common problems include cardiovascular diseases, hypertension, diabetes, arthritis, ulcers and other digestive disorders. Almost all of the visitors need vitamin and mineral supplements.

The clinic also oversees the AMAA's "Isomil" milk program, which provides milk substitute for infants who cannot tolerate milk or whose mother's cannot provide milk. The program reaches 550 children in Armenia and Karabagh.□

Armenian Children's Milk Fund



shelter for the homeless survivors.

Within months of this disaster, a group of volunteers in the Boston area recognized the need to help the most vulnerable of the survivors – infants whose mothers were unable to provide milk or who could not tolerate natural milk. Under the leadership of Mrs. Elaine Kasparian, this group organized the Armenia Children's Milk Fund in 1989 and solicited donations to provide a milk substitute to sustain such infants. Begun in Gumri, the program has expanded over the years and now serves 550 children in Armenia and Karabagh.

Today, the Boston-based volunteers continue to sustain this program under the leadership of President Jean Marie Papelian,

Esq., and Treasurer, Seta Kalalyjian. The program is administered by the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) through its headquarters in Yerevan and regional offices throughout Armenia and Karabagh. "Isomil", a baby formula, is purchased from Abbott Labora-

tories, which generously matches the purchased amounts. In Armenia, the program is supervised by Dr. Nazeli Sarkissian, the Director of the AMAA's clinic in Yerevan. Infants are placed in the program on the recommendation of local doctors. A regular supply of Isomil is provided to each mother, with the cans marked "Not for Sale". A file is kept on each recipient, and the infants are given medical checkups periodically. Over the past decade this program has saved hundreds of lives through reducing Armenia's infant mortality rate. If you would like to help Armenian Children in Armenia and Karabagh to have a better chance of survival, please fill out the coupon below and mail it to the AMAA Headquarters.□

Yes, I would like to help Armenian Children in Armenia and Karabagh.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$----- to the Armenian Children's Milk Fund of the AMAA.

Name-----

Address-----

(Make tax deductible donations to
AMAA/ACMF, 31 W. Century Rd. Paramus, NJ 07652)

AMAA's Child Sponsorship Program in the Middle East

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) operates an extensive and highly successful Child Sponsorship Program in Armenia. This program is designed to provide basic food items to the poorest of Armenian children and their families. What is sometimes overlooked is that the AMAA has been operating another Child Sponsorship Program, begun in 1946, in Armenian communities in Lebanon, Syria and Greece. This program is almost as extensive as the one in Armenia – covering nearly 1,500 children – but is geared to helping children from poor families acquire an education in a Christian environment.

Why is this program important? In most of the Middle East, public schools are substandard and often geared to Islamic values. An acceptable education is usually available only in private schools, which of necessity charge tuition. Without financial help, un-

derprivileged children would be unable to get a proper education. To counter this unacceptable alternative, the AMAA established a program that would identify children from poor families, find sponsors for these children and guarantee an education for sponsored children by paying the difference between sponsorship payments and total tuition costs. Sponsors pay US\$150.00 per child per academic year, and the AMAA pays the rest.

There are 13 schools in this program, eight in Lebanon (one of them a boarding school), four in Syria and one in Greece. Selection of children for this program is made strictly on the basis of need; currently, almost 90% of the sponsored children are Armenian Apostolic. A sponsored child remains in this program, year by year, until he or she completes secondary school.

Once a sponsored child "graduates" from the program, the sponsor is assigned another

child, so that the sponsorship continues uninterrupted. A sponsor may, at any time and for any reason, terminate his or her sponsorship by notifying the AMAA to that effect. In such cases, the child is assigned to a new sponsor.

Sponsors are provided with photos and information about sponsored children and an exchange of letters is encouraged (except for Syria, where the government does not allow such an exchange). Letters are routed through the AMAA, which delivers them to the schools and collects them from the schools.

Sponsors should be aware that their contributions are tax-deductible and are applied in their entirety to their sponsored children's tuition, with no deductions for overhead or other expenses.

The prolonged civil war in Lebanon in the 1970's and 1980's caused many Armenian families to emigrate from the Middle East. The war also disrupted the local economy through unemployment inflation. Today this program is more important than ever, as tuition costs have risen with inflation and unemployment has thrown more families into poverty.□

Haigazian University President's Report

Dr. John Khanjian, President of Haigazian University in Beirut, Lebanon, submitted a status report to the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) regarding the current situation at the university. Highlights from his report include the following:

Recruitment – Only 70 new applications were received for the second semester, compared to 120 last year, and 45 of them registered.

Enrollment – Current enrollment is 506, a decrease of 5.5% from the first semester. This was due to a loss of 75 students, who left for financial, academic and other reasons, such as an uncertain political climate and a depressed economy. About 51% of the student body is Armenian, and two-thirds

of the students are Christian. More than half of the students (55%) are women.

Financial Aid – The University provides financial aid to 177 students, with the average recipient receiving over \$1,000. Many other students need financial help, so this is a problem that the university's trustees must address.

Faculty – The university has 21 full-time and 37 part-time faculty offering 148 courses. Dr. Khanjian reports that most faculty members are "talented, creative and dedicated".

Looking ahead, Dr. Khanjian points to the following needs:

- Acquire additional property to expand the university's campus to include space for offices, sports and parking.
- Upgrade the Computer Science Lab.

- Increase faculty salaries to reduce their need to moonlight.

- Establish an Armenian Research Center.

Dr. Khanjian concludes his report with the following words.

"It is with great pride and satisfaction that I present to the Board of Trustees the enclosed reports, evaluations and five year plans of the Deans and Directors. The quality of their work reflects their professional approach and dedication to the institution. These reports are in many ways a self-study that shows the institution's desire and need to improve and move forward in spite of the political whims of the region. Haigazian University has a unique ministry, a decentralized and democratic administrative structure, a solid academic program, and a dedicated and professional cadre of faculty. While the institution is poised for further growth, it needs the enthusiastic and active support of the Board of Trustees. Therefore, the need to expand our facility and programs must be addressed prayerfully and positively."□

AMAA's Child Care Committee Raises \$85,000

Fifty children were the center of attention at the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) Orphan Care Committee luncheon on April 1 at the beautiful Four Seasons Hotel. Two hundred and fifty guests enjoyed a special children's fashion show where soft music served as a backdrop to the silent auction that preceded the luncheon. "To Armenia with Love" was the theme of the luncheon. \$85,000 was raised thanks to the high-energy committee co-chaired by Linda Kay Abdulian, Christina Jabarian, and Michelle Shirikian.

The event was dedicated to the memory of Tamara Felikian. Elizabeth Agbabian who described Tamara's devoted support of the AMAA Orphan Care program gave a moving tribute. Her family and friends were

present and they had come to give their support to her favorite project. Joyce Stein in English gave updates on AMAA's orphan care activities, and Hermine Janoyan read letters in Armenian from two orphans who were thanking the committee for the care they had received. The funds raised at this event will be used exclusively for disadvantaged children in Armenia and Karabagh. Last year, 7000 children had the privilege of an unforgettable camping experience, and 20,000 youngsters were treated to a Christmas party. During

the year the AMAA Orphan Care program also provided medical, dental, psychological and spiritual services to these children. Thanks to the generous support of the benefactors, patrons and supporters, as well as the committee members, these youngsters will have a chance again to enjoy AMAA's care and assistance.□



Orphan Care Committee - Standing Linda Kay Abdulian, Savey Tufenkian, Michelle Shirikian, Christina Jabarian, Diana Cabraloff, Irene Sassounian, Mary Kassabian, Elizabeth Agbabian, Mary Hovanesian, Joyce Stein. Missing from the picture: Grace Kurkjian, Grace Kay, Suzie Phillips and Hermine Janoyan.

PRAYER REQUEST FROM ARMENIA

Dear Praying Partners:

Warm greetings from warm and springy Yerevan.

Last month was a very busy and exciting time here at the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) Armenia. We had the privilege of hosting many visitors who had come to teach at the Seminary and to instruct our Christian Education (CE) staff. It was a very valuable time of learning.

The following is an update on our previous prayer requests: AMAA CE Ministries in Goris: The need for CE workers in this newly established ministry was a concern. Mrs. Meggie Daoud spent several days in Goris training the new team, and visiting families. Her visit was very productive. The need for CE workers in Goris continues to remain a concern. Four of the workers have, or will shortly move out of town (getting married!). Please continue praying.

For this month we ask that you pray for the following needs:
Easter Programs: AMAA CE staffs and children are preparing to proclaim the Easter message of a living Christ all over Armenia and Karabagh. In Yerevan, a very special drama-musical will be presented on April 26. Youth, children and parents will be attending. Many guests, including government, cultural and church officials are also expected to attend. Please pray for the effectiveness of this and all other presentations. May people hear, understand and respond to the message of the Gospel that will be proclaimed.

Summer Camp Preparations: We are already preparing for the summer camps, Day Camps and Daily Vacation Bible Schools. As in last year, we expect well over 7,000 children and youth to participate. Please ask God to give us wisdom and insight as we work on the themes, select leaders and camp locations. Many key decisions that determine the course of the camps are being taken now.

In closing, I would like to wish you a blessed Easter. May we all experience the intimate fellowship of Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings' (Philippians 3:10).

In His Service,
Harout Nercessian
AMAA Deputy Representative in Armenia

A black and white portrait of a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair, wearing glasses, a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling and looking directly at the camera. The background is a plain, light color.

More than 300 friends attended the Testimonial banquet, organized by a 21-member Committee, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Edward and Roseann Saliba.

The Bible teaches that all human beings are created "in the image of God". A part of that "image" which we bear may well be the creative impulse which our Creator has given us. Therefore, we believe that the purpose of the Arts is simple: to use gifts given by God to create things of beauty which bring glory to God, and with which to worship Him. This is the principle which lies behind Glory Festival 2000, a seven-day Christian Arts Festival, to be held at Albany New York's renowned Theatre, THE EGG, from Sunday, May 21, through Saturday, May 27, 2000, sponsored by David's Tabernacle Christian Arts Ministry. (Tickets: The Egg, (518) 473-1845, or (518) 459-3152)

Those who wish to honor the Rev. Karl Avakian's ministry may contribute to AEUNA/Rev. Avakian Fund and mail it to P.O. Box 25458, Fresno, CA 93729. ☐

A black and white portrait of a middle-aged man with short, dark hair, smiling at the camera. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a white clerical shirt with a visible white tab collar. The background is slightly out of focus, showing some foliage on the left and a wall with faint text on the right.

The occasion was a noteworthy one because Rev. Léonian was the first Armenian to be granted a doctorate by the Lyon Seminary. □

Sylvia Kutchukian, President
David's Tabernacle, Inc.
P.O.Box 11300
Loudonville, N.Y. 12211-0300
Tel:(518) 459-3152
Email: davidtab@gateway.net

Մովսէս Պ. Ճանապղեան

Մեր զոհերը պէտք է յիշենք յանուն արդարութեան
Որպէս Քրիստոնեաներ պէտք է խօսինք
ճշմարտութիւնը: Մարգարէներուն օրինակով, պէտք է
քաջաբար բողոքենք մեզի եղած ոճրագործութեան ու
անարդարութեան դէմ: Պէտք է մեր բողոքի ձայնը
բարձրացնենք եւ դատապարտենք ամէն տեսակ
անարդարութիւններ ուր որ ալ գործուին անոնք եւ
ով որ ալ ըլլայ անոնց զոհը: Ծշմարտութիւնը պէտք է
խօսուի ու յայտնուի: Առանց ճշմարտութեան

Պէտք է յիշենք Հայկական ցեղասպանութիւնը,
հաստիարակութիւնը։
Պէտք է յիշենք Հայկական ցեղասպանութիւնը,
Հաստատելու համար Աստուծոյ Խօսքին ճշմարտութիւնը,
«ամէն բաներու մէջ ալ աւելի յաղթող կ'ըլլանք անով
թէ, «ամէն բաներու մէջ ալ աւելի յաղթող կ'ըլլանք անով
որ մեզ սիրեց»։ Երբ յիշատակի պաշտամունքներ,
ողգեկոչումի հանդիսութիւններ եւ կամ ցոյցեր կ'ունենանք
Ապրիլ 24-ին, արար աշխարհի յայտարարած կ'ըլլանք որ
թուրքերը ուզեցին մեռցնել մահուան շրթաններ քակելով:
յարուց մեր ժողովուրդը մահուան շրթաններ քակելով:
Այո՛, մեզ սպանեցին, ջարդեցին, կողոպտեցին ու ցիր ու
ցան ըրին, բայց այն Աստուծոյ որուն հաւատացած էին
մեր հայրերն ու մայրերը, մեզ յարուց մեռելներէն ու

15

cal Church. He taught at the Sunday school and led the youth in the Christian Endeavor Society. Later on he served on the church council and especially on the board of the Armenian Evangelical School. It was through the church community that he met Alice Karamanoukian, the lovely daughter of Yacoub and Ebrouhi Karamanoukian of Aintab. She was serving as the church organist as well as a teacher at the Emmanuel Elementary School. In 1945 they married and were soon blessed with three children, Salpi, Sonia and Adour. In 1951, he received the news that he had been awarded a Smith-Mundt fellowship for study from the U.S. government. Leaving the family behind, he started his graduate studies in biochemistry at Emory University, where he earned his Ph.D. in 1954. In 1955, his wife and three children joined him in Atlanta. After two years as a research associate in biochemistry at Emory University, he was recruited to New Orleans by the Tulane University School of Medicine.

In 1951, having distinguished himself in many ways, he retired from Tulane University as Professor Emeritus. He was active in research, teaching, and helping students in extraordinary ways due to his breadth of scientific knowledge, knowledge of different cultures, and fluency in six languages. Dr. Adrouny's research included studies of the effects of hormones on metabolism; cardiac glycogen metabolism; and identification of the hemolytic component of fire ant venom; his work appeared in various scientific publications. In his lifetime Professor Adrouny was honored for his excellence in teaching and devotion to his students and was invited to be a member of numerous honorary professional organizations. Following his death, Tulane Medical School announced its intention to further honor him through an annual George Adour Adrouny Memorial Lecture series.

In New Orleans, George and Alice were active at the First Presbyterian Church, where George served as elder, trustee and Sunday school teacher for adults. They were leaders within the Armenian community and helped organize the Armenian Association of Louisiana.

In 1983, George's beloved Alice died, and in 1988 he moved to Gaithersburg, Maryland, where he lived near his daughter Sonia and her family. There, at age 76, he again established new roots and distinguished himself in his new community. He made friends primarily through Potomac Presbyterian Church and the Washington, D.C. area Armenian community. He spoke to the young and old on behalf of Armenian causes and as a survivor of the

Armenian Genocide. He was blessed with a congenial and modest spirit, a sense of humor, a giving heart, and a positive attitude. His faith and trust in God were paramount in all that he did.

George Adrouny is survived by his brother Dr. Zaven Adrouny (married to Armine Tabakian Adrouny) of Hillsborough, CA, sisters Miss Anayis Adrouny of San N CA, and Mrs. Shake Gulesserian (married to Levon Gulesserian) of Saratoga, CA, children, Salpi Adrouny (married to Dr. J. Baird) of Alpharetta, GA, Mrs. Sonia I (married to Dr. Ray Russo) and her children Jennifer and Peter of North Potomac, MD, Dr. A. Richard Adrouny (married to F. Tamzarian Adrouny) and his children M. and Gregory of Los Gatos, CA.

An Endowment Fund has been established at the AMAA in memory of George A. Alice K. Adrouny. □

Alice Tarpinian

Alice (Negoshian) Tarpinian, 75, of 721 Street, Worcester, died on Thursday, Jan. 6, 2000 at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center.

She is survived by a son, John A. Tarp of West Brookfield; a brother, Peter Negoshian of Worcester; and a granddaughter, Elizabeth A. Tarpinian of West Brookfield.

Mrs. Tarpinian was born in Worcester, daughter of John and Mary (Mikita) Negoshian, and resided there all her life. She was a graduate of Commerce High School, Salter's Secretarial School. She was employed by the accounting department of Percy's for many years before retiring in 1987.

She was a member of the Armenian Apostolic Holy Trinity Church, served as Treasurer of the church, and was a member of the parish council. She was a member of the Armenian Renaissance Committee, and the Senior Ladies Guild and Seniors Club of the church.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 8, 2000 at the Armenian Apostolic Holy Trinity Church in Worcester. Interment was in Hope Cemetery. □

Dana B. Fisher

Dana Bartlett Fisher, a California agribusiness leader who worked for water and land use rights, and a lifelong aviator who helped make TWA an international airline, died at age 81.

Fisher, who headed Fisher Ranch Corp., Hi Value Processors, Lettuce Processors and King Fisher Corp., died last July in Blythe, said his daughter, Bonnie Fisher.

His Palo Verde Valley ranch of more than 4,000 acres grows lettuce, cotton, alfalfa and various vegetables. Fisher, who began the ranching operation with his late father, attorney and Los Angeles Airport Commissioner Wayne Fisher, continued it with his own son Bart. □

Time-Life correspondent Elizabeth Saranian. When he joined his father for the ranching operation, Fisher set out to expand the use of scientific research in agriculture, particularly relating to water and land use. He eventually served as an agricultural advisor to the University of California and UC Riverside.

In addition to his wife, Fisher is survived by their four children, Bart, Sally, Bonnie and Wendy, and eight grandchildren.

A memorial service took place on July 24, 1999 at 2 p.m. in the United Community Methodist Church in Blythe. □

Rose Haigan Garabedian

Rose Haigan Garabedian, 76, joined her Lord on January 17, 2000, after a lengthy illness. Rose grew up in Whitensville, MA, where she lived with her family until marrying John "Big John" Garabedian of Fresno. John and Rose were blessed with three children; Cecilia, MaryAnn, and Johnny Jr.

Rose is also survived by her sister and brother, Julia and Harry Garabedian of Whitensville, six grandchildren, and leaves many loving friends and relatives.

Rose had tremendous faith in her doctors, a boundless love for people, and an undying faith in the Lord. Rose touched the hearts of all those she came in contact with. She was an angel whose wings were seldom seen.

Funeral Services were held at Yost & Webb Funeral Home on Friday, January 21, 2000, at 2:00 P.M.

Gifts of remembrance can be sent to the Armenian Missionary Association of America-Orphans Fund. □

Yervant Boghos Chaderjian

Yervant Chaderjian was born in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1926, to Boghos Chaderjian of Sebastia and Flora Kouposhian of Hadjin. He dedicated his life to his family, the Armenian Apostolic Church and the preservation, publication and distribution of Armenian books. Early in life, he began a career in publishing as an apprentice printer. He pursued his work with a passion, embracing the changes from the archaic compilation of letters in typesetting into the computer age of electronic publishing. He established the Meshag Publishing Company in Lebanon when he was in his early 20s; and over the next five decades, he edited and published countless volumes of Armenian literary and academic books, journals, magazines and dailies for worldwide distribution.

Among the books he was most proud of was the first volume of the history of Sebastia published in 1974, and the publication of the 300-year genealogical history of the Chaderjian and Daghavarian clan of Sebastia.

A devout Christian, he taught Sunday School and volunteered countless hours in administering the Armenian Apostolic Church's Sunday School educational programs in Beirut, Lebanon. His home was always open to Armenian seminarians and clergy studying at the Catholicosate of Antilias, Lebanon, as well as to writers, journalists and artists.

He married Azadouhie Terzian in 1958, and they were blessed with two daughters, Flora and Maral, and a son, Paul. His first priority

in life was his family, and he was a devout and devoted husband and father. In the mid-70s, when a civil war in Lebanon disrupted thousands of lives, he did not hesitate to walk away from his successful publishing house and the life-style which it afforded him to move his family to the safe haven of the United States, where he began a new life for his family in Fresno and a new printing business to support his family.

His joy over the past two decades was the success of his children and grandchildren. He always emphasized to them the importance of their four-thousand-year old heritage and culture, and the importance of preserving and learning about Armenian history and culture and using the Armenian language. For a number of years, he served on the executive committee of the Fresno Hamazkayin Cultural and Educational Association and was also a regional representative. Yervant was also involved in the Homenetmen Athletic Association and the April 24 Joint Commemorative Committee of Fresno. He continued his printing business in Fresno until his deteriorating health kept him from dedicating his full attention to his lifelong work.

Yervant Chaderjian is survived by his wife Azadouhie Chaderjian, daughter and son-in-law, Flora and Garo Istanbulian, grandchildren Ani and Alene Istanbulian; daughter and son-in-law, Maral and Alex Andekian of Lake Forest; son, Paul Chaderjian; brother Yermia Chaderjian and his family of Fresno; sister Hamedouhie Telfeyan and her family of Boston, MA, and many relatives and friends. □

Stella Hatch

Stella (nee Tabibian), died on Sunday, January 30, 2000 at the age of 93, surrounded by her family. Stella, who was born in Walters, OK, filled her life with community and church activities, infusing everything she did with creative energy, intelligence and style. She was President of the Women's Club of Drexel Hill and Director of the Delaware County Federation of Women's Clubs. She worked tirelessly to raise money for the Community Y of Eastern Delaware County, cofounded and served as Program Chairperson of the Drexel Hill Chapter of the AARP, was an extremely active and faithful member of the Drexel Hill United Methodist



Church where she also was President of the United Methodist Women and served as a Red Cross Volunteer Worker at the Delaware County Memorial Hospital for many years. In 1981, she was made a Member of the Legion of Honor of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains in recognition of her outstanding community service. She was a member of the PEO, Chapter N. Stella also acted as Trustee for the Martin F. Hatch Fund for Religious and Charitable Uses which had been established by her late husband. An English major at the University of Pennsylvania (class of '29), Stella was an avid reader, extremely knowledgeable about literature and world affairs, and an expert on proper grammar. She also performed in local plays and did dramatic readings at public gatherings in the community. Stella moved to White Horse Village, a retirement community, in 1994, leaving her long-time home in Drexel Hill. Stella's indomitable spirit, her overflowing love for and pride in her family, and her unfailing grace and dignity, even as her health declined, will be sorely missed. She is survived by her daughter Carol Roberts, her son Martin F., Jr. and his wife Susan, her four grandchildren, Leila and Imogene Hatch, and Gwyn and Colin Roberts and their spouses, Richard Stone and Elizabeth Kendziora, and her two wonderful companions, Anna Schmid and Geraldine Lambert. Interment is private. A memorial service was held on April 1, 2000 at Drexel Hill United Methodist Church. □

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA News:

- * **Mazgedian, Mihran**
Fresno, CA Jan. 2000
- * **Demirjian, Mike**
Fresno, CA Jan. 2000
- * **Neuberger, Lillian**
Pensacola, FL Jan. 29, 2000
- * **Tashjian, Haig**
Leonia, NJ Feb. 6, 2000
- * **Kuljian, Alice**
Philadelphia, PA Feb. 10, 2000
- * **Kaprelian, Shushan**
E. Hampton, NY Feb. 11, 2000
- * **Satter, Donald**
Fresno, CA Feb. 15, 2000
- * **Tahmizian Azad**
Fresno, CA March 6, 2000
- * **Lee, Amy**
Millbrae, CA
- * **Console, Russ**
Clovis, CA
- * **Najarian, Ohannes**

Memorials were designated for AMAA

AEUNA CONVENTION 2000

June 21-25

Shaping Our Vision for a New Millennium
"...being obedient to the heavenly vision." Acts 26:19

Occidental College
1600 Campus Road, Los Angeles

Banquet Speaker: C. Everett Koop, M.D., Sc.D.
Former U.S. Surgeon General
Saturday, June 24, 6:30 P.M. Thorne Hall

Hosted by
United Armenian Congregational Church
323-851-5265

<http://www.aeuna.org>
E-mail: aeuna2000@aol.com

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Planned programs for adults, teens and children.*

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